

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/849,526

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 – 17 (canceled)

18. (New) A therapeutic treatment machine for applying sequences of selected amounts of alternating tension and compression between two portions of the body of a patient comprising:

a frame having a forward section and a rearward section supported by a plurality of legs, said forward and rearward sections being separate members that are hinged together to permit said sections to be folded together;

a pad of size and configuration suitable for supporting the upper torso portion of a patient in a supine position, said pad being mounted within said forward section of said frame;

a plurality of rollers mounted in said frame with respective rotational axes extending transversely of said frame, at least some of said rollers being positioned and configured to support the lower torso portion of a patient in said supine position;

a foot support platform of sufficient size and configuration for supporting and securing the feet of said patient in said supine position, and mounted within said rearward section of said frame;

drive means for cyclically moving said platform forcefully in the forward direction and alternately moving said platform forcefully in the rearward direction, said drive means comprising:

a motor for producing rotation in a driven member;

a linkage arm;

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means for converting rotational movement in said driven member to longitudinal reciprocation of said linkage arm; and

means for moving said platform longitudinally with said linkage arm.;

wherein said foot support platform comprises:

a support surface;

first and second foot rests secured to said surface in transversely spaced relation for supporting the heel portions of the patient's feet;

first and second foot support plates;

bracket means for removably securing said first and second foot support plates in transversely spaced relation and in substantial longitudinal alignment with said first and second foot rests for supporting the bottoms of the patient's feet;

first and second foot clamps for engaging the tops of the patient's feet and, in cooperation with said foot support plates, holding the patient's feet in place against longitudinal movement; and

mounting means for removably securing said foot clamps to said foot support platform, said mounting means comprising:

a T-bar having a stem and a cross member, wherein said stem is sized and configured to fit between said first and second foot plates, said stem having an end remote from said cross member and a longitudinally extending slot defined therethrough;

means securing said foot clamps to respective ends of said cross member; and

a threaded bolt for securing said T-bar to said platform in a manner to permit said stem to move longitudinally, said bolt extending freely through the slot so as to be slideable along the length of the slot while being retained in the slot, said bolt having a distal end threadedly engaging said platform and a proximal handle end, wherein said T-Bar is free to move along the stem length dimension while being

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restrained by said bolt from being displaced away from the platform in a direction transverse to the stem length dimension.

19. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 18 wherein said frame is a generally rectangular frame comprising tubular frame members interconnected at corners of the frame by respective corner members, each corner member comprising:

a corner portion;

first and second arms extending from orthogonally oriented sides of said corner portion, said arms adapted to be slidably received in ends of respective tubular frame members; and

adhesive means for securing said first and second arms in said respective tubular frame members.

20. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 19 wherein each of said first and second arms is a generally U-shaped member formed integrally as one piece with said corner portion and having a base disposed at said corner portion and two spaced sides extending distally, wherein said adhesive means secures each of said sides to a respective inner surface of a tubular frame member.

21. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 19 wherein said frame is supported by a plurality of legs at each of said corners, wherein each of said corner members includes a leg support member extending orthogonally to said first and second arms from said corner portion and configured to telescopically engage a respective leg.

22. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 21 wherein said corner member, said first and second arms and said leg support member are formed of a single piece of cast aluminum.

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23. (New) A therapeutic treatment machine for applying sequences of selected amounts of alternating tension and compression between two portions of the body of a patient comprising:

a frame having a forward section and a rearward section supported by a plurality of legs, said forward and rearward sections being separate members that are hinged together to permit said sections to be folded together;

a pad of sufficient size and configuration for supporting the upper torso portion of a patient in a supine position, said pad being mounted within said forward section of said frame;

low friction support means mounted in said frame for supporting the lower torso portion of a patient in said supine position;

a foot support platform of sufficient size and configuration for supporting and securing the feet of said patient in said supine position, and mounted within said rearward section of said frame;

drive means for cyclically moving said platform forcefully in the forward direction and alternately moving said platform forcefully in the rearward direction;

wherein said frame is a generally rectangular frame comprising tubular frame members interconnected at corners of the frame by respective corner members, each corner member comprising:

a corner portion;

first and second arms extending from orthogonally oriented sides of said corner portion, said arms adapted to be slidably received in ends of respective tubular frame members; and

adhesive means for securing said first and second arms in said respective tubular frame members;

wherein said foot support platform comprises:

a support surface;

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first and second foot rests secured to said surface in transversely spaced relation for supporting the heel portions of the patient's feet;

first and second foot support plates;

bracket means for removably securing said first and second foot support plates in transversely spaced relation and in substantial longitudinal alignment with said first and second foot rests for supporting the bottoms of the patient's feet;

first and second foot clamps for engaging the tops of the patient's feet and, in cooperation with said foot support plates, holding the patient's feet in place against longitudinal movement; and

mounting means for removably securing said foot clamps to said foot support platform, said mounting means comprising:

a T-bar having a stem and a cross member, wherein said stem is sized and configured to fit between said first and second foot plates, said stem having a longitudinally extending slot defined therethrough;

means securing said foot clamps to respective ends of said cross member; and

a threaded bolt for securing said T-bar to said platform in a manner to permit said stem to move longitudinally, said bolt extending freely through the slot so as to be slideable along the length of the slot while being retained in the slot, said bolt having a distal end threadedly engaging said platform and a proximal handle end, wherein said T-Bar is free to move along the stem length dimension while being restrained by said bolt from being displaced away from the platform in a direction transverse to the stem length dimension.

24. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 23 wherein each of said first and second arms is a generally U-shaped member formed integrally as one piece with said corner portion and having a base disposed at said corner portion and two spaced

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sides extending distally, wherein said adhesive means secures each of said sides to a respective inner surface of a tubular frame member.

25. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 24 wherein said frame is supported by a plurality of legs at each of said corners, wherein each of said corner members includes a leg support member extending orthogonally to said first and second arms from said corner portion and configured to telescopically engage a respective leg.

26. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 25 wherein said corner member, said first and second arms and said leg support member are formed of a single piece of cast aluminum.

27. (New) A therapeutic treatment machine for applying sequences of selected amounts of alternating tension and compression between two portions of the body of a patient comprising:

a frame having a forward section and a rearward section supported by a plurality of legs, said forward and rearward sections being separate members that are hinged together to permit said sections to be folded together;

a pad of size and configuration suitable for supporting the upper torso portion of a patient in a supine position, said pad being mounted within said forward section of said frame;

low friction support means mounted in said frame for supporting the lower torso portion of a patient in said supine position;

a foot support platform of sufficient size and configuration for supporting and securing the feet of said patient in said supine position, and mounted within said rearward section of said frame;

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drive means for cyclically moving said platform forcefully in the forward direction and alternately moving said platform forcefully in the rearward direction, said drive means comprising:

- a motor for producing rotation in a driven member;

- a linkage arm;

- means for converting rotational movement in said driven member to longitudinal reciprocation of said linkage arm; and

- means for moving said platform longitudinally with said linkage arm.;

wherein said foot support platform comprises:

- a support surface;

- foot rest means secured to said surface for supporting the heel portions of the patient's feet;

- first and second foot support plates;

- bracket means for removably securing said first and second foot support plates in transversely spaced relation and in substantial longitudinal alignment with foot rest means for supporting the bottoms of the patient's feet;

- first and second padded foot clamps for engaging the tops of the patient's feet and, in cooperation with said foot support plates, holding the patient's feet in place against longitudinal movement; and

- mounting means for removably securing said foot clamps to said foot support platform, said mounting means comprising:

- a T-bar having a stem and a cross member, wherein said stem is sized and configured to fit between said first and second foot plates, said stem having a longitudinally extending slot defined therethrough;

- means securing said foot clamps to respective ends of said cross member; and

- a threaded bolt for securing said T-bar to said platform in a manner

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to permit said stem to move longitudinally, said bolt extending freely through the slot so as to be slideable along the length of the slot while being retained in the slot, said bolt having a distal end threadedly engaging said platform and a proximal handle end, wherein said T-Bar is free to move along the stem length dimension while being restrained by said bolt from being displaced away from the platform in a direction transverse to the stem length dimension.

28. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 27 wherein said frame is a generally rectangular frame comprising tubular frame members interconnected at corners of the frame by respective corner members, each corner member comprising:

a corner portion;

first and second arms extending from orthogonally oriented sides of said corner portion, said arms adapted to be slidably received in ends of respective tubular frame members; and

adhesive means for securing said first and second arms in said respective tubular frame members.

29. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 28 wherein each of said first and second arms is a generally U-shaped member formed integrally as one piece with said corner portion and having a base disposed at said corner portion and two spaced sides extending distally, wherein said adhesive means secures each of said sides to a respective inner surface of a tubular frame member.

30. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 28 wherein said frame is supported by a plurality of legs at each of said corners, wherein each of said corner members includes a leg support member extending orthogonally to said first and second arms from said corner portion and configured to telescopically engage a respective leg.

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31. (New) The therapeutic treatment machine of claim 30 wherein said corner member, said first and second arms and said leg support member are formed of a single piece of cast aluminum.